



SPRING 2007 ISSUE | [www.mbda.gov](http://www.mbda.gov)

## MBDA Held 2007 Louisiana Investment Conference

As part of its *Rebuilding the Gulf Initiative*, the Minority Business Development Agency hosted a Louisiana Business Investment Conference in New Orleans, LA. Over 30 minority owned firms with at least \$3.0 million each to invest attended the event. The investment conference was an opportunity to learn about tax incentives, local/state economic development plans and tour commercials and industrial corridors. At the event, conference attendees met with key decision makers from public and private sectors. They also had the chance to network and match with strategic partners, investors and entrepreneurs.



*"MBDA is committed to rebuilding the Gulf by connecting financially sound minority businesses with a proven track record to business investment opportunities. We want to foster local and national partnerships between minority businesses because together they will build minority communities through the creation of jobs and a viable economy."*

- Ronald N. Langston, MBDA National Director

## MBDA Funds 31 Minority Business Centers

MBDA announced \$7.8 million in total funding for 31 Minority Business Enterprise Centers (MBECs) including six new centers: Biloxi, MS; Las Vegas, Nevada; St. Louis, Missouri; Indianapolis, Indiana; Mobile, AL; and New Orleans, Louisiana. The MBEC program promotes the growth and expansion of minority-owned firms through business consultation, entrepreneurial technical Assistance. It also provides access to capital, and public and private contracting opportunities. **To find a center near you, call 1-888-324-1551 or visit [www.mbda.gov](http://www.mbda.gov).**



### New Mexico MBEC

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## Call for Nominations 2007 National Medal of Technology

"The National Medal of Technology recognizes American innovators who have made lasting contributions to advancing our global competitiveness, economic prosperity, and quality of life. These pioneers in the amazing world of science and technology are American heroes."

-Carlos M. Gutierrez, U.S. Commerce Secretary



Nomination forms and guidelines are available at  
[www.technology.gov/Medal/Nomination.htm](http://www.technology.gov/Medal/Nomination.htm)  
**Deadline is May 31, 2007 by 5:00PM EST**

## NM MBEC Gets \$3.0M Contract for Firm

The New Mexico Minority Business Enterprise Center (MBEC) assisted Supreme Contracting, Inc., a minority-owned firm, in securing a \$3.0 million contract. By negotiating an 8(a) sole source IDIQ contract, the firm will provide construction and maintenance services at multiple Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Centers in the southwest U.S. The contract includes re-roofing of a VA building in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which will result in the creation of four new jobs.

## MBDA in the Media

MBDA received prime media placement in the March 2007 issue of Forbes Magazine, Hispanic Business Magazine and Prudence International Magazine. Prudence covered MBDA's *Rebuilding the Gulf Initiative*. Forbes focused on minority businesses competing in the global economy with highlights of past innovative MED Week award winners. And Hispanic Business interviewed the National Director about accessing capital.



## Save the Date: September 13-14, 2007 MBDA Week Celebrates 25 Years of MED Week

With this year's theme, *Celebrating the Legacy of Innovation and Competitiveness*, MBDA will host its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week National Conference on September 13-14, 2007 in Washington, DC. Steve Forbes of Forbes Magazine will serve as the Chair of the MED Week Honorary Committee. Packed with knowledge-rich workshops, networking events and an awards gala for the minority businesses and strategic partners, this is a historic event you don't want to miss! **To learn more about sponsorship Opportunities and how to register, please visit [www.medweek.gov](http://www.medweek.gov).**

## MBDA Salutes National Small Business Week 2007

MBDA proudly joined the U.S. Small Business Administration in celebration of National Small Business Week, with events to be held on April 23-24, 2007, at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. The event recognized outstanding small business owners for their contributions to the nation's economy and for their personal achievements during the week.

## White House Initiative on Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders Host Business Conference

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the White House Initiative on AAPI hosted a regional conference for the New England minority business community at the University of Massachusetts-Boston Campus. At the luncheon, MBDA National Director Ronald N. Langston provided remarks on minority business development in the changing economy. Conference participants had an opportunity to network, compare best practices and learn about federal programs in the areas of business, health, housing, minority contracts, grants and senior services. The event represents a series of conferences which have been held around the country to establish mutually beneficial working relationships among community-based organizations, governmental agencies, and corporations to serve minority communities more effectively.



## MBDA Gets Results.

In 2006, MBDA...

assisted  
**20,000**  
minority businesses with  
contract opportunities\*

secured  
**\$1.6 billion**  
new contracts and  
financial awards\*\*

provided  
**43,000 hours**  
of direct service to  
minority businesses

consulted  
**3,600 clients**  
On management and  
technical needs

\*The number of clients assisted represents "as served through programs, staff and online."

\*\*The dollar value represents secured financings and contracts (including IDIQ and multiple year awards).

## MBDA Works for Minority Businesses.

 **MinorityBiz Facts™** THERE ARE 4.1 MILLION U.S. MINORITY FIRMS<sup>1</sup>

MBDA Business News is published by the Minority Business Development Agency's Office of Legislative, Education and Intergovernmental Affairs in Washington, DC. If you have any comments please contact us at [news@mbda.gov](mailto:news@mbda.gov).

<sup>1</sup>US Census 2002 Survey of Business Owners/MBDA data